

A BUSY WEEK.

The Northern Pacific Will Build a Bridge and the Street Car Line Will Be Extended.

A First-Class Hotel to Cost Three Hundred Thousand Dollars Is Talked Of.

Realty Values Steadily Rising and the Last Week the Biggest One on Record—The Outlook.

It was a source of pleasure yesterday to visit the real estate dealers and hear what they had to say. The complaints of lack of business were so few that they cut out a very small figure. One of the important events of the week, and probably the most important, was the order issued yesterday to Engineer Haven, of the Northern Pacific, by Supt. M. C. Kimberly to commence the construction of a bridge over the track, near the gas works, into the Grand avenue addition. This piece of work has been in contemplation for over a year, but action was deferred owing to a disagreement as to who would bear the expense. But now the railroad company has come smilingly to the front and will pay for it itself. The bridge will be forty feet wide, the probable cost of which is estimated at \$12,000. It will be constructed so that trains may pass underneath and will be suspended from the banks on either side. Immediately following its completion the street car company will extend its track down Main street, across the bridge and traverse the Grand avenue and Flower Garden additions. For this purpose \$20,000 has been raised.

The real estate transfers for the week will easily approach \$250,000. Dealers say that property is steadily advancing and they are firm and showing no disposition to let slide. The building enterprises are increasing with astonishing rapidity. An important item in this connection is the fact that the Thurnburg & Co. have received \$14,000 from the owners of the Flower Garden addition to erect brick residences thereon, none of which are to cost less than \$3,000. Further instructions are given not to sell a lot without a building contract being assured to follow the purchase of ground. The result is that at present eight handsome private residences are in course of construction.

Relative to building it might be proper to add here that Helena needs a first class hotel. "Will it pay?" is the first question put when this is mentioned. On this question there seem to be no doubts, and the agitation for a first class hotel, commensurate with the growing importance of Helena is daily increasing. A main street real estate dealer said yesterday: "It is true Helena has a number of hotels, but none of them can be placed in the category of first class houses. It is with difficulty at times that a stranger can secure a room in one of them. They are always filled up. If any one asks, 'Would it pay?' just tell them that the Grand Central hotel never had a vacant room in it, and the Cosmopolitan nearly as much. A fine hotel is one of the best advertisements a city can have. It becomes the general talk all over the country and many people traveling around would stop just to see it. Look at Tacoma. Nearly every one that comes from the west says, 'Why don't you people get a hotel like Tacoma's?'"

From present indications it looks as though Helena will have a first class hotel in a short time. There is a movement on foot now, headed by S. C. Ashby, T. C. Power, and other capitalists of the same school, to start a subscription which is intended to be donated to the man or company who will build a \$300,000 hotel. It is generally believed that half this amount can be raised by popular subscription. The object in making this inducement is to show eastern capitalists that the people of Helena have not only a permanent residence in the permanence of Helena, but to illustrate that a hotel is needed and will pay.

PORTER, MUTH & COX report the rush for building sites on the west side still continues and the trade in lots on the motor line has been very active for the week. Among those who have bought for immediate improvement are Rev. George K. Berry, Messrs. A. J. Craven, John B. Clayberg, Jacob Loeb and F. P. Lanford. The total sales in the syndicate, Bradford, Ames, Brooke and Highland Park for the week will reach \$30,000, and purchasers are of the class that are most desirable as residents. It is quite the fashion now to own real estate in these additions, which bid fair to become the "Nob Hill" of Helena.

Within two weeks the continuation of Hauser street to the Hot Springs hotel will be opened for travel and the driveway will be cleared of stones, making it the finest drive in the city.

Col. Broadwater is working a full force on the hotel, which will be crowded to completion, and the opening may be looked for about June 1.

The iron front building on lower Main street is being fitted up for hotel purposes and will add nearly 100 rooms to the hotel capacity of the city.

Butte City residents are seeking homes in Helena as the best place in which to rear and educate their children and save them from the noxious fumes of the reduction works and smelters of Butte.

WALLACE, THURNBURGH & CO. About the busiest firm in Helena last week has been Wallace, Thurnburgh & Co. They report that notwithstanding the rise in values, the number of transfers have been very large. The business yesterday was \$12,000. Summarized, they report the sales and business of the week as follows:

Flower Garden.....\$9,800
Syndicate.....12,000
Townsite.....7,700
Flower Garden.....3,000
Locky.....4,000
Blake.....4,200
Grand avenue.....1,200
Dwellings (contracted).....14,000
Total.....\$54,900

Among the purchasers were an alderman for syndicate lots to the amount of \$4,375 and a traveling salesman representing a wholesale Chicago clothing house invested \$3,250 for speculation. Drs. Parsons and Roberts paid \$1,200 for some lots and intend to build at once. While the east side shows more activity in building than the west side, the character of building in the latter is more expensive and desirable. The Flower Garden addition, for which this firm is sole agent, was placed on the market for the first time Jan. 1, this year and up to date \$80,000 worth of lots have been sold, the greatest record in Montana. Inquiries from people contemplating moving to Montana are being received daily from all over the country.

WITHERBEE & HUNTER, who deal in Hauser Mings, Broadwater, Bradford and Ames addition property, report a very good week. They also handle Helena avenue property and last week made a sale of 179 feet at \$100 a front foot. This \$17,900 was invested by Griffith Bros., of St. Paul, who contemplate erecting a hotel, but the site at present is too far from the active business center. To how far reality has advanced it might be in proper form to state here that this same property five months ago was sold at \$30 a front foot. Another eastern investor paid \$4,700 last week for a lot on Helena avenue. Witherbee & Hunter purchased 160 acres

near East Helena from Massena Bullard last week for \$5,500.

OTHER DEALERS. W. F. Cummins is satisfied with the result of the week, having up to Saturday sold sixteen lots in the Townsite and eight in the Phoenix addition. A. E. Cunningham, city engineer, purchased four lots in Townsite and will erect a residence. Henry Latch will also erect a residence. Property in Villard addition has advanced 25 per cent.

L. F. LaCroix reports but few transfers, owing to the advance in values, but inquiries have been lively, and prices are firm with indications that buyers are weakening and prospects good for heavy sales. C. F. Ellis & Co. have their hands full, did a big business and have a number of heavy transfers in negotiation.

Matheson & Steel made many small sales and have a big deal on hand which will be perfected Monday. This firm is among the heaviest operators of Helena, and their office may always be seen filled with buyers or inquirers.

Folk & Devine, just opened in business in the Granite block this week, besides their real estate business are conducting a mining brokerage. They are well pleased with the outlook.

S. R. Douglass and Armitage & Jackson report a lively week.

FINALLY SETTLED. There was placed on record yesterday the final deeds from L. J. Drawfuss, of Chicago, to Louis G. Phelps and Martin Maginnis for the block of property which begins just across from the rear of John F. Murphy's store and fronts on Gulch street, 181 feet, and on Sixth avenue 229 feet. L. J. Drawfuss had in turn purchased the property from thirty-six adult and two minor heirs of the late Henry Phleger, whose interests were duly disposed of under the proper decree of the probate court. The concentration of the various interests in the hands of one party, Mr. Drawfuss, who is a great deal of labor, time and expense, and was undertaken and completed by Mr. John W. Group, of Ranchtown, Pa. Major Maginnis made a preliminary contract for the transfer some time since while in the east, and yesterday the title was perfected and transferred. The cost, as it appears in the record, was \$38,000, but there were many expenses outside of this which greatly increase the amount. This is the largest block of property under one holding in that city called the city block.

One of the important sales of the week was the purchase by Gans & Klein, W. W. Brown and Frank Sterling, of Mrs. John Kinna for \$20,000. This property includes 179 feet on Fifth avenue, 115 feet on Warren street and sixty-six feet on Sixth avenue. It is the intention to erect business and residence houses thereon to cost about \$50,000.

The Odd Fellows are looking around for a place of property and have a number of sites in view. They will put up a building this year to cost no less than \$50,000.

The directors of the Montana club are seriously considering erecting a building of their own to house the headquarters of the club. The club has 175 members now each of whom could easily subscribe to \$500 worth of stock.

At no distant date the Helena Board of Trade will put up a commodious structure and the proprietors of the Cosmopolitan hotel will make some needed improvements to their hotel this season.

Work on a four story building on Helena avenue, on the east side, below the Steamboat block, has begun. It is A. J. Davidson's enterprise.

The contract for the erection of Thomas E. Goodwin's building on Eighth avenue was awarded yesterday to M. J. Jacoby, he being the lucky bidder out of a close field of eight. His bid was \$3,275.50. Mr. Erickson was the closest to this, his bid being only 25 cents more.

YESTERDAY'S TRANSFERS. The following real estate transfers were filed in the recorder's office yesterday:

Massena Bullard, trustee, et al, John A. Gocketter, lots 19, 20, block 19, Locky addition.....\$750
Samuel H. Koch, ex-admin of Harry Gordon Phleger, et al, L. J. Drawfuss, interest in lots 2, 3, 4, 15, 16, 17, 22, block 405, Helena townsite.....608
R. M. Phlegary, guardian of Henry S. Phleger, et al, L. J. Drawfuss, interest in seven lots block 405, Helena townsite.....1,359
Harry E. Wehman, minor, by Mrs. M. Jacoby, et al, L. J. Drawfuss, interest in seven lots block 405, Helena townsite.....417
John M. Daly et al, E. S. Kelly et al, lot 36, block 12, Helena townsite.....1,250
James U. Sanders et al, Mattie Campbell et al, lots 1, 2, block 84, Northern Pacific addition.....750
James Blake to Catherine A. Kessler, lot block B, Blake addition.....1,000
John A. Gocketter to Catherine Kessler, lots 19, 20, block 19, Locky addition.....1,100

FILLS THE BILL. The Helmet Solid Oil the Best For All Sorts of Machinery.

A few days since Mr. C. A. Brophy, of Chicago, visited this city for the purpose of introducing a new lubricant known as the Helmet Solid Oil. To attain this end he called on the A. M. Holter Hardware company, inquiring at the same time, for a place where they were troubled with hot boxes. He was quickly escorted to the works of the Helena Steam Power and Light company, where the machines are numerous and running at high speed, and often with hot boxes. With permission of Mr. Wm. Harrison, general manager of the works, the oil was applied to several bearings and the main working parts of their Corliss engine. This was over a week ago, and after running twelve hours nightly at the bearings and boxes where the Helmet Solid Oil was used have at all times been perfectly cool and clean, without any leakage or splashing of oil, while the adjoining boxes, where the old system of liquid oil is still in use, attain a high degree of heat, beside splashing oil for several feet on each side of the shaft.

Not being satisfied with this, Mr. Brophy undertook to keep cool the journals of the locomotive pulling the Atlantic express on the Montana Central railway between Helena and Butte, a feat considered impossible owing to the heavy grades and the fast time the train has to make. The Helmet Solid Oil was applied and the train made several trips to Butte and back with all the journals perfectly cool, to the great satisfaction of the officers and engineers of the road. This oil is now being placed in almost every mill and brewery adjacent, among which are the Helena & Livingston Smelting and Reduction company, Helena Lumber company, United States Public Sampling company, Helena Water Works and Electric Light Works.

The Helmet Solid Oil is a German product, contains no acid or pitch, will not melt, will not freeze, will not clog nor gum and can be applied in any position. It is clearly a sure preventative of hot boxes and said to be the cheapest and most desirable lubricant known. The A. M. Holter Hardware company of this city will carry this oil in stock as soon as a supply can be obtained from the eastern depot.

HIDDEN WEALTH.

Our Mining Industries and How They Are Prospering—Some Noted Mines.

Recent Deals Which Have Been Made, and Who Have Been Benefited by Them.

The Whitlatch-Union Group of Mines and Some of Their History—The Chloride Camp.

The week in mining circles has been an unusually interesting one. At no previous time have there been assembled in Helena so many prominent operators representing so many different fields of operation. And this is as it should be. Helena is the center of all territorial business, and it is but natural that all persons having business to transact should collect here. St. Louis has been well represented and there is not an outside city in the United States whose people are more interested in Montana's mines than those of the Missouri metropolis. They are securing the big properties of Montana and have been very fortunate in their Montana investments. The Granite Mountain and Bi-Metallic mines have made a number of them millionaires, and the San Francisco and West Granite properties are the principal attractions just now. The important event of the week was the West Granite deal, by which a syndicate composed partly of the directors of the Granite Mountain and Bi-Metallic companies acquired a heavy interest in the West Granite mines. A clouded west side mind has misinterpreted the meaning of what was really done at the meeting and wired President Ramsey to find out if his company had purchased outright the West Granite property. It was reported that he replied in the negative, which was eminently correct. Nobody has yet stated that the West Granite group has been sold. But \$150,000 was advanced by those people, and is now in the First National bank to be used upon the reorganization of the company under the name of Elizabeth.

The prospects for mining activity in the immediate vicinity of Helena are very encouraging. The gathering together of the Whitlatch-Union group of mines, four miles above the city, means a great deal for Helena, and these mines which at one time were Helena's sole reliance, will soon be developed and the hidden treasure is brought out.

THE FOURTH OF JULY. A syndicate was formed yesterday, composed of Messrs. John T. Murphy, Henry Klein, A. M. Holter, S. T. Hauser, C. K. Wells, J. K. Pardee, Capt. J. H. Plummer and T. H. Kleinschmidt, to purchase and develop the Fourth of July mine in the Okanagan country. Some good looking ore from this prospect has been on exhibition at the Cosmopolitan hotel this week, and attracted some attention. In behalf of the syndicate Capt. Plummer will go to-day or to-morrow to examine the mine and report. Should his report corroborate what has been previously said of the mine, the syndicate will purchase it and organize a company for its development. The present owners are Patrick Clark, of the Portman, Sam I. Silverman and Messrs. Hussey & Taylor of Spokane Falls. Silverman has been in town a few days, and yesterday had four assays made by A. W. Hand. The surface croppings, which are said to be exposed for 300 feet, assayed 90.5 ounces silver. A piece from the bottom of the shaft, which is eighty-five feet deep, showed 308.4 ounces. Sam says there is a foot of this ore at the bottom and he thinks \$120,000 is the value of the Fourth of July at its present stage.

THE WHITLATCH-UNION. Judge J. G. Sanders was asked yesterday what he knew about the history of the Whitlatch-Union mines. "Well," he replied, "I was Jim Whitlatch's secretary when those mines were booming. I see that work is to be resumed. There is no doubt they will pay big if properly worked. When Union No. 2 was down to a considerable depth, owing to the lack of system in working, the expenses were very heavy and profits nominal. I think if a

vertical shaft was sunk, in a year's time the mine would be paying good dividends. "As near as I can remember Jim Whitlatch, in 1864, came up from Salt Lake with a few companions and a wagon load of whiskey and landed in Helena nearly broke. The placer diggings were then attracting a good deal of attention and before Jim was in town an hour he sold out his entire cargo of whiskey at fancy figures. This gave him a grubstake and he started in to prospect for quartz and he knew a bit of quartz when he saw it, having made himself famous by the discovery of the Whitlatch Union in Nevada.

"He started out in December before the snow began to fall and went up Last Chance gulch, found some float and then traced this to the ledge. He saw gold, jumped in the air, staked out a claim and came back to town. He did nothing more until the following late spring. He toiled away at development, but there were no reduction prospects. Then he was told by a resident of Boulder valley (now a resident of Boulder across the plains, brought out and erected a 10 stamp quartz mill of a very primitive pattern. Turrey had secured a claim or two in that section, and worked his mines with much profit. In the fall of 1866 Whitlatch made a contract with him to crush 1,000 tons of ore from the Union at \$15 a ton, which yielded \$53,000 in gold. The next contract was for 500 tons at \$15. That was a pretty stiff figure for free milling ore. All of this came from claim No. 3.

"J. C. Kieker in 1867 put up a 20 stamp mill to treat ore for claim No. 2. Meanwhile Whitlatch had become owner of most of the ground on the lead outside of Kieker's location. In 1868 Whitlatch made a sale to the National Mining and Exploring company for about \$100,000. This company erected a 20-stamp mill and subsequently Jim made another sale to the Columbia Mining company, a Philadelphia organization, who also put up a 20-stamp mill. I think the price paid to Whitlatch was \$75,000. Soon a discovery was made by Wm. H. Parkinson and Chas. D. McClure, now the Granite Mountain millionaires, and they erected a 10-stamp mill. They called their claim the Oyhoe. Old Unionville was in his glory then and had a population of about 3,000, part of whom resided at Park City where several of the mills were situated. Everything went lively until 1875, when litigation commenced and one thing or another until all a sudden everything was closed down. The total output of the camp was never known, but it is variously estimated between \$6,000,000 and \$7,000,000.

"For years these mines kept Helena alive. Before they were discovered it looked mighty blue here during the winter when the placers were frozen up. There is one thing about the Unionville mines and that is no mine in Montana has so continuously showed low grade ore to such a depth as they did. I consider it one of the best fields for investment to-day that can be found in Montana and if a company is organized to develop them Helena people should not let the mines go to eastern people."

CHLORIDE CAMP. D. H. Birdsall, general traveling agent of the Safety Nitro Powder company, and an old-time Montanan, arrived in the city last night direct from the Chloride camp. He says that the Weber mine, for a partially developed mine, is very promising and that a sudden discovery will prove to be of great value; but it will require several months of steady work to fully test it. The report that only a blowout was found he says is an error. He was in there and saw a sudden discovery was closed down. The ledge being discovered. The tunnel is in 100 feet on low grade ore, and Supt. McDonnell is satisfied with the showing.

THE HOMESTEAKE. F. Chadbourne returned from Stemple yesterday and reports having increased the working force from seven to twelve men on the Homestake. In tunnel No. 3, he states, the level is being extended in two parts, and in No. 2 tunnel crosscutting is in progress, under which a rich vein of gold ore has shown up. He believes that with fifty feet more development a chunk of ore will be struck. A number of prospects in the vicinity are being developed, and the district is attracting a good deal of attention among prospectors.

THE STAR MINE. Henry Klein received a letter yesterday from Manager Waggoner, at the star mine, at Mt. Raymond, Fresno county, California. There is four feet of snow on the mountain, which retards the work to some extent. The new concentrator will be completed about April 20. Mr. Waggoner writes that the ore has improved within the past week.

BOARD OF TRADE MEETING.

The New Rooms Formally Opened With a Well Attended Meeting.

Yesterday the new Board of Trade rooms in the Pittsburg block were thrown open to the public. A number of people visited the place which Secretary Walker has elaborately arranged. Life size oil portraits of Cols. Sanders and Broadwater and the efficient secretary's portrait in crayon adorn the walls. The furniture is all of oak and very handsome and in large letters on one of the windows "Board of Trade" appears prominently.

The first business meeting of the board was held yesterday, with President Davidson in the chair, and Messrs. Holter, Kleinschmidt, Parcken, Cole, Harris, Wallace and Maj. Robt. C. Walker, secretary, present. After routine business and the reading of correspondence a subject of considerable importance was discussed relative to stop-over tickets on the Northern Pacific railroad. Spokane Falls is privileged with stop over tickets, and it is claimed by the board that many tourists would remain a day or two in Helena if this privilege were accorded. As it is now, people traveling for business or pleasure to the coast are not allowed to get off here without losing the benefit of their tickets, but they may stop at Spokane Falls at their pleasure. This complaint has been brought to the attention of the Helena board of trade by persons who have suffered the inconvenience. The matter was freely discussed and a resolution was adopted instructing the secretary to correspond with President Thomas F. Oakes, stating the sense of the board of trade on this subject, with a view of obtaining for Helena the same advantages now extended to Spokane Falls and other places west of that point.

T. H. Kleinschmidt, on behalf of the First National bank, tendered to the board the use of its cabinet of minerals, which offer was cordially accepted and the secretary directed to provide a proper receptacle for their keeping. The secretary was also instructed to procure mining and scientific publications for the files for the benefit of the members and patrons of the board of trade. Formal authority was also given to the secretary to issue the Board of Trade Journal, a monthly publication, under the auspices of the board. A committee consisting of Messrs. Holter, Cole, Steele and R. C. Walker was appointed to make provisions for correspondence and other matters to facilitate the publication of the journal. The meeting adjourned.

Religious Notes.

The rector of St. Peter's church will preach this morning on the subject of "Divorce." Besides the usual morning and evening services there will be a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7:45 a. m. The collection in the morning will be for domestic and foreign missions.

Messrs. J. Armitage and Ebenezer Sharpe returned Wednesday evening from Missoula, where they held a five days series of revival services in the First Presbyterian church.

Regular services in Christian church this morning and evening, at usual hours. Sermon this evening for the children. Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. All invited.

The New Board of Trade Rooms.

The inauguration of the Board of Trade room in the Pittsburg block will be by a meeting of the directors at 3 p. m. to-day. On Monday the rooms will be open to all the members and citizens, when they will be welcome at all times with any friends they may bring with them.

Can and Will.

Furnish all kinds of rough and cut stone of first quality for less than any firm in the business. Montana Granite Company, city.

A Traveling Man's Experience.

Mr. C. J. Smith, traveling salesman for Belford, Clark & Co., Chicago, had the misfortune to sprain his wrist most severely. "I was suffering great pain," he says, "and my wrist was badly swollen; a few applications of Chamberlain's Pain Balm relieved the pain and reduced the swelling in one night, and in consequence my work and business were not interrupted, for

which I am very grateful. I can recommend Chamberlain's Pain Balm from personal experience." Sold by H. M. Parchen & Co.

CONVICTS PARDONED.

Gov. Leslie Sets at Liberty Two Men Imprisoned for Burglary.

DEER LODGE, March 23.—[Special to the Independent.]—Warden Tom McTague returned from Helena yesterday, bringing with him pardons for Douglas Beahan and John Carrier.

Beahan and a man named Harrington robbed a man named Negus near Helena about three years ago. They burglarized his house, and among other things stolen were a lot of papers, the value of which was said to be in the neighborhood of \$20,000. These papers have never been found, although a reward of \$5,000 was offered for their recovery. The convicts always declared that the papers were burned. This is very likely true, but should they still be in tact the reward will soon be claimed, now that Beahan is at liberty. Beahan was pardoned on the recommendation of the prison officials in reward for his exemplary conduct during his incarceration. Beahan and Harrington were convicted at the December term of the district court at Helena in 1887. Beahan was sentenced to two years, but Harrington got five years and is still in the pen.

Carrier was convicted of burglary last December in Helena, and was sentenced to two years. Gov. Leslie says he has made a thorough investigation in this case and is convinced that Carrier is an innocent man. Carrier's appearance and actions while at the prison substantiate the governor's opinion.

PERSONAL.

S. V. Trent, of Salt Lake, is in town. E. R. Denny, of Bozeman, is a guest of the Cosmopolitan.

H. Milot and wife, Phillipsburg, are visiting the capital. J. M. Leecore, Ohio, and C. R. Evans, Detroit, are registered at the International.

Wm. F. Furry, of Deer Lodge, and John W. Payne, of Great Falls, are at the Grand Central.

D. H. Birdsall, general traveling agent of the Safe Nitro Powder company of San Francisco, is in the city.

Henry Semple Ames, of St. Louis, and Chas. S. Winslow, of Chicago, have returned from the north on a tour of inspection to some mines in which they are interested.

E. A. Ringwald, county clerk and recorder of Cascade county, is in the city en route home. He is accompanied by Mrs. Ringwald, whom he married in Stillwater, Minn., and is receiving congratulations of friends.

Free For All.

In order to advertise my new location I will give to all who call, enough fine gilt paper to make wall pockets, fans, etc.

O. J. Holmes, decorator and dealer in wall paper, room mouldings, window shades and curtain poles, 108 Grand street.

Millinery Opening.

Monday and Tuesday at Fowles' Cash Store will be displayed the largest and best selected stock of millinery ever opened in the city. Ladies should not fail to inspect this rare and mammoth stock, which will be sold at New York prices for cash.

Heavy Gladstonian Gain.

LONDON, March 23.—The election in the Gordon division of Lancashire to fill a vacancy in the house of commons caused by the death of Richard Peacock, Gladstonian, resulted in the return of Wm. Mather, Gladstonian, by a majority of 846 over Earnest Hatch, the nominee of the conservatives and liberal unionists. At the last election Peacock defeated Lord Grey DeWilton, conservative, by 457.

A game of base ball was played yesterday at Liverpool against the All-Americans and a Liverpool team. Under Rounders' rules the English players won by a score of 16 to 14, but under the base ball rules the All-Americans won by 170 to 0.

SANDS BROS.

A Grand Spring Array

OF

PARISIAN NOVELTIES

IN

Elegant Suits, Fine Dress Goods

AND

SUPERB SPRING WRAPS

Will be Shown In Our House On To-morrow, Monday Morning, and During the Week.

SANDS BROS.

Helena, M. T.